



Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



Minutes of the Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board meeting of July 6, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Takako Wakita at 12:00 noon. Members present were: Takako Wakita, Chairperson; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; George Lilly, Kotor, Montenegro; Carey Rogers, Dingle, Ireland; Jaime Sodusta, San Juan, Philippines; Gil Garcia, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Guests: Marti Correa-Garcia. Not present were Wayne Hewitt, Vice Chairperson; representatives from Weihai, China, Toba, Japan and Patras, Greece.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the minutes of the May 4, 2011 meeting were approved as corrected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Takako extended congratulations to Gil Garcia as the newly elected President of the Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee. Takako commented on the article in the Santa Barbara News Press regarding organizations that do not have non-profit status. Takako reported that the Sister Cities Board, Puerto Vallarta Sister City, Toba, Japan, Dingle, Ireland and Kotor, Montenegro all have current non-profit status. Regarding the Children's Summer Reading Program at the Library, Takako said she had contacted the Library and they would like to have a pen pal in Japan, so the Toba group will take on this project. Takako reported she had received a letter from Theony Condos, Patras, Greece stating that the economic situation in Greece prohibits continuing projects at this time, and requested that they hold be placed in inactive status for a year. Takako said she told Theony that they must have a representative at the Sister Cities Board meetings in order to maintain their Sister City status.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

REVIEW OF CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2011: No changes or additions.

ANNUAL REPORTS: Takako reported she had not received reports from everyone and asked that they send in their report via e-mail by July 20, 2011.

9-11 CONCERT: Takako reported that the Choral Society held a meeting on July 12th while she was out of the country on plans for this concert. She contacted them on her return and found out they are planning to have the event at the Granada Theatre with an orchestra presentation of 'Mozart's Requiem,' which is about 40 minutes, poetry readings for about 10-15 minutes, and a performance by Japanese flutists. Takako reported she had offered \$500.00 from our Committee to be co-sponsors of the event, which was approved at our meeting on May 4th. Takako had asked that each committee contribute \$50.00 and the balance would be made up from the Board's account. Takako reported that the Firefighters Association also plan to have a concert at the Sunken Gardens on September 11th from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. The concert at the Granada will start at 3:00 p.m. Gil Garcia suggested that Takako register this event with SCI and also videotape the concert to send to SCI.

UNITED NATIONS CELEBRATION - OCTOBER 20, 2011: At the May meeting, Takako asked if one of the Sister Cities group would volunteer to be in charge of coordinating this event. Jaime Sodusta said the San Juan group has volunteered. Takako said the duties that each group has performed in the past will remain the same. Suggestions for entertainment were Philippine dancers, Santa Barbara Youth Mariachi Band, and Mexican Folk dancers. Discussion was held on having a speaker limit of 3 minutes. Further discussion is scheduled for the September meeting.

SCI PAN PACIFIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE: Gil Garcia reported this meeting will be held in Riverside, California at the Mission Inn on September 30 - Oct. 1, 2011. Gil said that he and Marti plan to attend. The International SCI Conference will be in Jacksonville, Florida, in July 2012.

PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY TV (CHANNEL 17): As both Linda Mathews and Joe Cantrell were not present there was no report.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Kotor, Montenegro: George Lilly reported that the three young performers from Santa Barbara are in Kotor to participate in the 19th Annual International Children's Theatre Festival and reports are that they are really enjoying themselves. They are being taken on tours, boat rides, etc. George said this is the first time an American group has performed at the Festival. George showed some pictures of the group he had received by e-mail.

Dingle, Ireland: Carey Rogers reported that everything is still on hold.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico: Gil Garcia reported the delegation from Puerto Vallarta will be arriving on July 26th and events are planned for every day while they are here. The Mayor of Puerto Vallarta and his new bride will not be arriving until July 30th, so some of the events had to be rescheduled to accommodate them. Mayor Schneider plans to participate in some of the activities.

San Juan, Philippines: Jaime Sodusta reported that the Children's Choir Concert on May 15th went very well. He said a Filipino Friendship Party was held at the Elks Lodge on June 18th. He reported that the group now has 40 paid members. Jaime and his wife plan to go to San Juan in September.

Toba, Japan: Takako reported that the students from Toba will be arriving on July 29th, and there will be a pool party at the Maxwell's on July 31st for students, host families and guests. Four students from Santa Barbara will be leaving for Toba on August 10th. They are still working on plans for a trip to Toba in November.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Baker, Recording Secretary